

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2020-77-T - ORDER NO. 2020__

May 18, 2020

IN RE:	Application of Thompson & Webster, LLC d/b/a)	ORDER AMENDING
	Two Men and A Truck of Augusta for Approval)	CERTIFICATE NO. 9719
	to Amend its Tariff, and Scope of Authority)	AND APPROVING
)	TARIFF CHANGES

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Application of Thompson & Webster, LLC d/b/a Two Men and a Truck of Augusta (“Applicant” or “Company”) to Amend Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 9719 from its current operating scope to statewide authority, and seeking approval of certain amendments to its Tariff. The Applicant is currently authorized to serve Aiken, Edgefield, and McCormick Counties.

By its application, Applicant seeks approval to amend certain rates and to make various changes to other charges and terms and conditions of the Company’s current tariff. The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) completed a review of the proposed tariff and submitted its findings to the Commission on April 23, 2020. ORS’ Impact Study revealed that the Company was in compliance with the Commission’s rules and regulations at its compliance review on April 14, 2020. Furthermore, ORS advises that Reliable Services is currently in compliance with all filing and reporting requirements, and no consumer complaints have been filed against the Company within the past twelve months.

Lastly, with respect to the comparison report completed by ORS of the tariff modifications above the rates of the South Carolina Tariff Bureau (SCTB), we note that no other parties have filed in opposition to the rates proposed by the Company.

Notice of this matter was timely published pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-817(C)(3)(a). No parties intervened, and a hearing on the Application was held on May 14, 2020.

The parties at the hearing included the Applicant, represented by John J. Pringle, Jr., Esquire, and the Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”), represented by Jenny Pittman, Esquire. The Applicant presented the testimony of Robert Michael Thompson, Owner of the Applicant. In addition, Applicant offered the shipper witness affidavit testimony of Margaret Durst, a realtor with Meybohm Real Estate, who stated the need for additional movers in South Carolina.

ORS did not present testimony, but submitted a letter to the Commission on May 12, 2020 stating that “ORS is of the opinion that the Applicant will continue to meet the requirements of fit, willing and able as required of a Household Goods Mover under the provisions of 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-133 (2012).”

During the hearing, Mr. Thompson testified that he is the owner of the Applicant and has been with the Company since it was first certificated by the Commission in Docket 2001-429-T. Since the Company began operating in 2002, it has added trucks, equipment, and employees. Mr. Thompson testified that the Company has the equipment and resources to provide intrastate moves statewide, and that the Company receives numerous calls and requests for intrastate moves that it is not authorized to perform. Additionally, Mr. Thompson testified that the Applicant is in compliance with all statutes and regulations, and intends to maintain that compliance.

The Commission finds the Application to be in order. Additionally, we conclude that the Applicant has demonstrated that it is fit, willing, and able to operate as a household goods mover pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-23-330 and 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-133. Furthermore, we find that the public convenience and necessity is not already being served by an existing authorized service. With respect to the proposed tariff, the lack of opposition, and the results of the ORS impact study, we conclude that the amended tariff proposed by the Company is just and reasonable for the Company and its customers. Accordingly, the Company's request to amend its current tariff should be approved.

Therefore, the Application of Thompson & Webster, LLC d/b/a Two Men and a Truck of Augusta should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The relief sought in the request for modification of Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 9719 of Thompson & Webster, LLC d/b/a Two Men and a Truck of Augusta by changing the scope of operating authority from between points and places in Aiken, Edgefield, and McCormick Counties to full statewide authority is approved.
2. Upon compliance with all statutory and regulatory requirements, a modified Certificate shall be issued by the Office of Regulatory Staff to the Applicant as provided in this Order.
3. Prior to compliance with all statutory and regulatory requirements and the receipt of such amended Certificate, the motor carrier services authorized by such Certificate may not be provided under the statewide authority granted herein.

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4. Failure of the Applicant to either (1) comply with all statutory and regulatory requirements within ninety (90) days of the date of this Order, or (2) request and obtain from the Commission additional time to comply with the requirements, shall result in this Order granting the Application to become null and void and the Application shall be dismissed without prejudice. In this event, no further order of this Commission is necessary.

5. The Applicant's request to amend its tariff is approved.

6. The Final Tariff and Bill of Lading are approved and attached hereto as Order Appendix A.

7. Pursuant to the two-month reporting requirement contained in Order No. 2014-443 (May 21, 2014), the ORS is requested to furnish the name and docket number of the Applicant to the Commission, should the Applicant fail to meet the requirements of the present Order. After such notification, the Docket shall be closed.

8. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Comer H. "Randy" Randall, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jocelyn Boyd, Chief Clerk/Administrator